

THE HYDERABAD
ROAD CODE



The Hyderabad Road Code

Approved by Government

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The Hyderabad Road Code

CODE FOR ALL USERS OF THE ROAD

GENERAL

Always be Courteous, Careful and Considerate towards others. As a responsible citizen it is your duty to respect the rights of other road users and not to endanger or impede them in their lawful use of the road.

Remember that all persons—pedestrians, cyclists, persons leading, riding or driving animals and the drivers of motor or animal drawn vehicles—have an equal right to use the road and an obligation to respect the rights of others. Bear in mind the difficulties of others and try not to add to them.

Keep on Guard against the errors of others. Never take a risk in the hope or expectation that everyone else will do what is necessary to avoid the consequences of your rashness.

Take Special Care during the rains when the roads are slippery and all road users have less control over their movements.

Rule of the Road.—

- (a) **Vehicles.** Keep to the left (or near side) except when overtaking other vehicles or avoiding obstructions: when overtaking, overtake on the right (or off-side).

Children. Warn children of the many dangers of the road and teach them how to avoid them. (A special code for children will be found at the end of this Book).

(This rule does not necessarily apply in places where there are special arrangements for the regulation of traffic, such as "one-way" streets, etc.)

- (b) **Pedestrians.** Always walk on the footpath where one is provided: if there is no footpath keep to the extreme side of the road on which you are walking.

Note.—It is generally better to walk on the right of the road so as to face oncoming traffic.

- (c) **Led Animals.** When leading an animal it is generally better to keep to the right so as to face oncoming traffic.

- (d) **Ridden Animals.** Observe the rule of the road for vehicles unless leading another animal. (See above).

CODE FOR THE DRIVERS OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

1. **Always be courteous, careful and considerate** towards others. Keep on guard against the errors of others and keep a sharp look-out for children.

2. **Brakes.** Test the brakes of your car before starting out each day. Make certain that they act properly—failure to do this is often the cause of very serious accidents. Even with the best adjusted brakes, the stopping distance increases rapidly as speed increases. The following may be taken as braking distances for four wheel brakes in proper condition:—

Stopping distance in Feet.

<i>Speed M.P.H.</i>	<i>Good dry road</i>	<i>Very greasy road.</i>
20	20	55
30	45	128
40	80	228
50	125	355
60	180	500

Exceptionally well-braked vehicle can be stopped in two-thirds of above distance. With rear wheel brakes only, stopping distances are half as much again. Remember that when brakes are suddenly applied braking effect is reduced and a skid may occur.

3. **Speed and Control.** Carefully regulate your speed at all times to suit the traffic, road, and weather conditions prevailing. Always have your vehicle under full control and be ready to pull up well within the distance which you can see to be clear.

4. **Signals.** When you intend to stop, slow down, or change direction, give the proper signal

as described in your driving license, clearly and in good time.

(Hand signals for this purpose are fully described and illustrated in the Appendix—see page 22.)

Keep a sharp look out for signals by constables controlling traffic and for traffic signs, signals, and warning notices.

(It is an offence under Sections 21 and 76 City Police Act of 1344 Fasli, to fail to conform to the directions of a Police constable when engaged in the regulation of traffic or to any direction given by a light signal or other traffic sign. The signals to be given by Police constables are illustrated and described in the Appendix—see page 19.)

5. White Lines. Look out for "White lines" on the road and carefully follow the indications they give, even when the road appears to be clear. Make it a habit to go very slowly when approaching transverse white lines at road corners, even when there is apparently no oncoming traffic.

6. Overtaking. Never overtake unless you can see sufficiently far ahead to do so with safety. Remember that the brow of a steep hill or a hump-backed bridge is as dangerous as a sharp bend because it conceals oncoming traffic.

Always wait for the all-clear signal from the car you wish to overtake, but bear in mind that

such a signal does not absolve you from the duty of satisfying yourself that you can overtake with safety. When being overtaken by another driver try to help and not to hinder him. Keep well to the left and if the road is clear signal him on. Never accelerate at such a moment.

Do not overtake at cross-roads, road junctions or road bends and above all do not overtake a vehicle which is already overtaking another.

After overtaking return to the left side of the road but not before you can do this without causing inconvenience to the persons overtaken. **Do not cut in.** Remember the right hand side of the road belongs first to the oncoming traffic. Never overtake, therefore, unless it is clear that you can pass and get back to the left side of the road again without making either the person overtaken, or a person approaching from the opposite direction, check speed or alter direction suddenly.

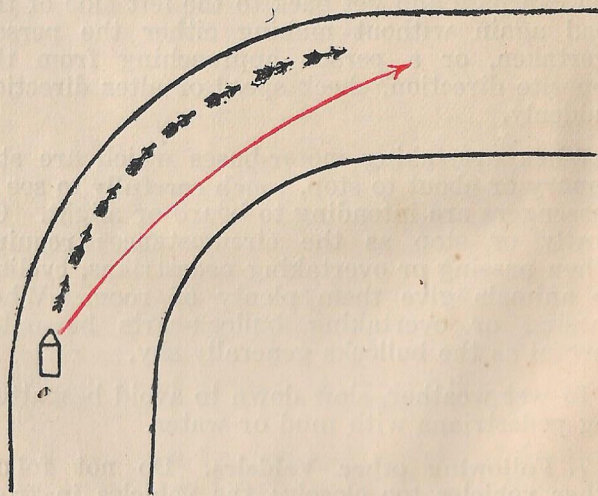
When overtaking motor-buses which are stationary or about to stop, **watch carefully** to see if passengers are intending to board or alight. Go slowly or stop as the circumstances require. When passing or overtaking pedestrians, cyclists or animals give them plenty of room. When passing or overtaking bullock-carts be extra careful as the bullocks generally shy.

In wet weather, slow down to avoid bespattering pedestrians with mud or water.

7. Following other Vehicles. Do not follow other vehicles too closely: the vehicles in front

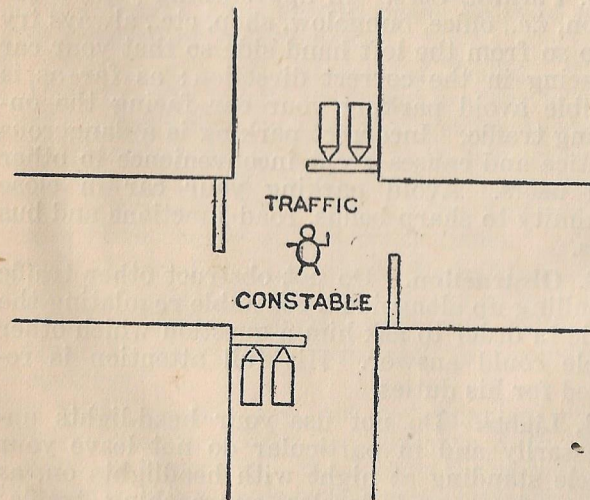
may have to pull up suddenly and if you are too close behind and cannot see what is in front of them you may not be able to stop in time. If you are driving a motor bus or one of a series of slow moving vehicles, **leave ample space** between yours and the preceding vehicle to allow faster traffic after overtaking one vehicle to draw in to the left if necessary before overtaking the next.

8. Corners and Bends. Take special care at corners and bends to leave ample room for on-coming traffic. Bends are very deceptive and the same care and caution is necessary when taking a bend as when turning a corner. The incorrect way to take a bend is illustrated below: the danger is obvious:—



The correct and safe way is shown with black arrows, the wrong way (which is frequently done) is shown with red arrows.

9. Cross-roads and Road Junctions. No vehicle has a "right of way" at cross-roads, but it is the duty of a driver on a minor road when approaching a major road to **go dead slow** and to give way to traffic on it. Nevertheless when you are driving on a major road, always keep a sharp look-out and drive cautiously at all cross-roads and road junctions. When held up at a cross-road by a traffic signal stop behind the transverse white line and do not cross the white line until you are signalled to do so:—



The above sketch illustrates the North and South traffic held up at a cross road allowing the East and West traffic to proceed.

10. Narrow Lanes and Streets. Go very slowly in narrow lanes and streets no matter how familiar the road may be to you. This particularly applies in the Districts where blind corners, hidden drives, cattle or other obstructions may at any moment offer unexpected dangers.

11. Breakdown. If at any time your car breaks down, pull in at once to the extreme left side of the road and carry out your repairs, thereby causing as little inconvenience as possible to other traffic.

12. Parking Cars. In approaching your destination, *i.e.*, office, bungalow, shop, etc., always try to do so from the left hand side so that your car is facing in the correct direction: as far as is possible avoid parking your car facing the on-coming traffic. Incorrect parking is a dangerous practice and causes great inconvenience to other road users. Avoid parking your car in close proximity to sharp bends, road junctions and bus stops.

13. Obstruction. Do not obstruct other traffic by pulling up alongside a constable regulating the traffic in order to ask him a question which other people could answer. His full attention is required for his duties.

14. Lights. Do not use your head-lights unnecessarily and in particular do not leave your vehicle standing at night with headlights on, as this confuses and dazzles approaching traffic: side lights are sufficient. On most cars there is

a device for dimming the lights: it is an act of courtesy and consideration to use this for the benefit of approaching traffic.

15. Motor Horns. Remember that your horn is intended to be used as a warning and an indication, if needed of your presence on the road; it should not be used as a threat. Sound your horn when approaching a danger point or when about to overtake, unless you are satisfied that such a precaution is unnecessary. **Do not take it for granted that your warning has been heard: in no circumstances can the sounding of a horn excuse a driver from taking every other precaution to avoid an accident.** Motor horns should not be used unnecessarily and always with consideration for others. **They should never be used to show annoyance or impatience.**

16. Keep in your stream of Traffic. Where a line of traffic is held up do not go over to the side of the road with the object of getting to the front in order to see why the traffic is held up or in the hope that you may get through. No matter what the obstruction, this only makes matters worse and is the cause of bad traffic jams.

17. Special duties towards Pedestrians, Cyclists and Animals. Respect the rights of pedestrians. Aged or infirm people and young children and those in charge of them call for your special courtesy.

Take special care not to endanger children. Remember that they are likely to dash into the road unexpectedly. Look out for school signs. When passing or overtaking pedestrians, cyclists or animals give them plenty of room. If the

roads are wet or muddy try to avoid splashing them. Show special consideration towards horses and animal-drawn vehicles.

CODE FOR MOTOR CYCLISTS.

1. **Always be courteous, careful and considerate.** Remember that as a motor cyclist the same rules apply to you as to the driver of a motor car.

2. The small space you occupy, your capacity for high speed and your reluctance to stop dead may tempt you to 'cut in' by threading your way between other vehicles. This is a very dangerous practice and a frequent source of accidents.

3. **Be cautious, and considerate** rather than trust solely to your driving skill.

4. The risks you take are not only risks to yourself but to other users of the road.

5. Sudden noisy acceleration is unnecessary and disturbing.

6. Make no attempt to gain a forward position in a traffic block by means of the narrow spaces between stationary vehicles. They may start suddenly, and you will impede them and endanger yourself.

CODE FOR THE DRIVERS OF ANIMAL-DRAWN VEHICLES.

With obvious exceptions and necessary changes the rules for motor vehicles also apply to animal-drawn vehicles. Study and observe them and

pay special attention to the rules headed "SIGNALS," "WHITE LINES," "OVERTAKING," "CORNERS AND BENDS," and "BREAK-DOWN and OBSTRUCTION" (so far as applicable). Remember that you are slow moving and should therefore keep well to the left of the road. **You may be the cause of serious obstruction or even danger unless you observe strictly the rules and courtesies of the road.**

CODE FOR PERSONS IN CHARGE OF ANIMALS.

1. If you are in charge of led animals, whether walking or riding, place yourself so as to be between them and passing or overtaking traffic.

2. When wishing to cross a road or change direction, especially when turning to the right, select a favourable opportunity and show your intention by giving the appropriate signal. When approaching a corner or coming out of a gateway, send a man forward if possible to warn approaching traffic.

3. Remember to keep the road as clear as possible for other traffic.

CODE FOR PEDAL CYCLISTS.

1. **Always be courteous, careful and considerate.** Other people have a right to the road and fast moving traffic has a right to the centre of it. Always keep well to the left edge of it. Certain of the rules for drivers of motor vehicles also apply with some slight modification to pedal cyclists.

Study and observe them and pay special attention to the rules headed "SPEED AND CONTROL," "SIGNALS," "OVERTAKING" and "WHITE LINES." Give warning of your approach whenever necessary.

2. **Brakes.** Make it a habit to test the brakes of your bicycle the first thing each day after taking it out on the roads. If the brakes prove to be defective have them put right immediately.

3. **Control.** The careful cyclist has his machine under perfect control at all times. He looks well ahead and anticipates obstructions. He is always on the alert and can stop quickly if an emergency occurs.

4. **Signals.** Obey all traffic signals. They apply to you as much as to other users of the road. When taking a turn, give the correct signal in good time so that the vehicles behind you may slow down or stop. When about to turn to the right don't put out your arm and then turn immediately; such an act may cost you your life. Give your signals in good time. **Remember that the average speed of a motor vehicle is 35 feet in one second.**

5. **Steadiness.** Do not wobble about the road but ride as steadily as possible.

6. **Speed and Dangerous Driving.** At all times think of the safety of others; careless riding and rashness is a short and sure route to the hospital. Ride carefully through congested streets and never try to race with motor traffic or other cyclists. It is dangerous. The public road is not the place to show off your tricks: riding with your feet on the handlebars or on the front fork, or riding with your arms folded are clever but dangerous tricks: **the public road is not the place for them.** Sudden swerves and swoops are dangerous. Hanging on other vehicles, dodging in and out among the traffic carrying a passenger on the pillion or crossbars, and standing on the back wheel hub are very dangerous practices which may result in somebody's death if not your own.

7. **Riding abreast.** Never ride with other cyclists three or four abreast. Make the passage of other traffic wishing to overtake you easier by getting into single file except on very broad roads.

8. **Wet-roads.** Rubber tyres hold firmly on dry roads, but on wet surfaces they are apt to skid. Be careful in making a sharp turn. You may hurt yourself severely, if the wheels slip.

9. **Hanging on.** Do not ride too close behind other vehicles, in particular motor buses; leave enough space for their slowing down or stopping suddenly.

10. **Traffic Blocks.** Do not hold on to a motor vehicle even when it is stationary where traffic is held up. Make no attempt to gain a forward position in a traffic block by cycling along the narrow spaces between stationary vehicles. They may start suddenly and you will impede them and endanger yourself.

11. **At Night.** Before setting out see that your bicycle light is in good working order. Light it up before lighting up time. Remember that in the dark you are not easily visible to following traffic; therefore keep well to the left of the road. If you do not use a red rear lamp remember to keep your red reflector clear and properly fixed.

12. **Ringings of Bells.** Continuous or too loud ringing only annoys or startles pedestrians and may make them run in front of a vehicle and so cause a bad accident. Be considerate in the use of the bell.

13. **Remember** you are only one of the millions who are entitled to use the roads.

14. **Respect the rights of Pedestrians.** Aged or infirm people and young children and those in charge of them call for your special courtesy. Take special care not to endanger children. Remember that they are likely to dash into the road unexpectedly. Look out for school signs. When passing or overtaking pedestrians or animals give them plenty of room.

CODE FOR PEDESTRIANS.

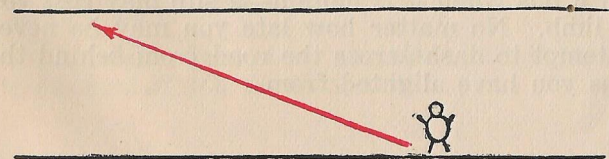
1. **Pavements—Footpaths.** Always walk on the footpath where one is provided: where there is no footpath keep to the edge of the road on which you are walking.*

Note.—It is generally better to walk on the right of the road so as to face oncoming traffic.

2. **Crossing Roads.** Before crossing a road look right and left and satisfy yourself that it is safe to cross. Look out for approaching traffic and take its speed into account. Remember that motor vehicles travel at about ten times your speed: **while you are walking nine feet a motor vehicle covers ninety feet.** When stepping off the footpath look towards oncoming traffic. Do not make a sudden dash into the roadway.

Take special care if you have to step out from behind or in front of vehicles or other obstructions which prevent a clear view of traffic.

At road junctions where the traffic is controlled by Police or signals, take advantage of that control and cross when the appropriate line of the traffic is held up. Obey the instructions of traffic policeman and never cross the road behind one. Always pass in front of a police control so that he can see and assist you. Do not cross a busy street near a cross-road. Traffic is always heaviest here. Move further down the street to a safer place before crossing. Cross the road directly as possible. Never cross it like this; you may never get to the other side:—



3. **Be alert.** Many accidents are caused by pedestrians rushing across the road without first looking each way. Keep cool and wait your opportunity. Why risk your life by dashing suddenly across the road in front of an approaching vehicle when you can wait safely where you are?

4. **Be considerate.** Remember that the road is not the monopoly of any one class of traffic. Be considerate of others and avoid all unnecessary risks; it is not always the man who causes the accident who gets hurt the most.

5. **Be courteous.** Help across the road the aged and the infirm: show special consideration towards young children.

6. **Standing at corners.** Do not stand about on the road especially in groups, at blind corners and other dangerous places where your presence may cause danger both to yourself and others. The public road is not the place to discuss topical events and other matters: such conduct is foolhardy and very dangerous.

7. **Traffic signals.** Traffic signals are meant for pedestrians as well as vehicular traffic; observe them carefully. Get to know the signals used by the drivers of vehicles and by persons regulating traffic. They will help you to decide upon your own movements.

8. **Boarding buses in motion.** Never get on or off a bus when it is motion—a slip may cost you a limb. No matter how late you may be never attempt to dash across the road from behind the bus you have alighted from.

9. **Dogs and other animals.** When walking along roads where traffic is heavy keep your dog on a lead. A dog or any other animal running loose in traffic is a danger to itself and to everyone else.

10. **Children.** Teach your children how to use the roads, explain to them the difficulties of others and point out the danger of the roads.

CODE FOR CHILDREN.

Are you doing all you can to prevent accidents?

There are many accidents in the streets and every one is trying to make them less.

YOUR HELP IS WANTED.

Play the "Safety Game" the rule of which are given below. The rules of this game are very easy, remember them and carry them out.

Try to beat every other school in preventing accidents and give yours a record for no accidents:—

1. **Always stop** before crossing the road, look right and left, and if all is clear cross quickly.

2. **Always stop** and look before running into the roadway on leaving school, or to fetch your ball or hoop.

3. **Always cross** busy streets where there is a policeman if you possibly can.

4. Always look out for vehicles turning corners.
5. Always look and listen for warning signals.
6. Always wait until the bus stops before getting on or off.
7. Always guide younger children across the road.
8. Never play the "Last Across" game.
9. Never run behind or hold on motors, lorries, carts, or other vehicles.
10. Never throw each others things or push each other into the roadway.

WHEN CYCLING.

1. NEVER ride on the step, crossbar, or handlebar of another's bicycle.
 2. ALWAYS keep your brakes and rear red reflector in proper condition.
 3. ALWAYS go slowly at a cross-road, and dismount unless you can see that the way is clear.
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APPENDIX

Traffic signals that every road user should know.

PART I

Signals to be given by Police Constables and others engaged in the Regulation of Traffic.

The following signals are those officially recommended and are intended to cover the ordinary situations which arise in traffic control, but other signals may be required for abnormal situations or owing to the peculiar lay-out of particular road junctions.

Drivers should note that once they have been stopped the constable may lower his hand or use it for giving other signals. They should not move on until the constable signals to them to do so.

Signals Nos. 1 to 4 are specially illustrated to show how, in a simple instance, they appear to the drivers for whom they are intended.

Drivers should be specially careful to distinguish the "Proceed" signal intended for them from those intended for other traffic. This will be shown primarily by the constable looking in their direction. In particular they should note that no "Proceed" signal applies to a driver towards whom the constable's back is turned.

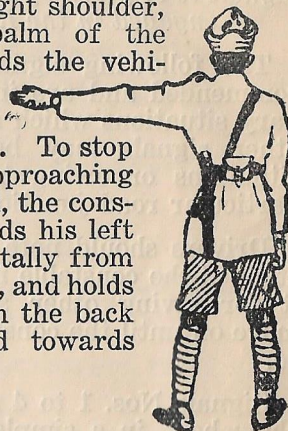
"Proceed" signals are used not only to bring on vehicles which have been stopped, but also to indicate to approaching vehicles that their way is clear.

No. 1.



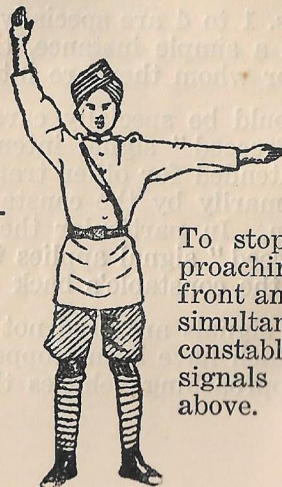
Number 1. To stop a car approaching from his front or from either side, the constable faces squarely towards it and extends his right arm and hand at full length above his right shoulder, with the palm of the hand towards the vehicle.

No. 2.



Number 2. To stop a vehicle approaching from behind, the constable extends his left arm horizontally from the shoulder, and holds it rigid with the back of the hand towards the vehicle.

No. 1 and 2 combined.



To stop vehicles approaching from his front and from behind simultaneously, the constable combines signals Nos. 1 and 2 above.



Number 3. To bring on a vehicle from his front, the constable looks towards the driver and beckons him on with the right hand and forearm, which should be raised well above the shoulder.

No. 4.

As viewed by the drivers for whom they are intended.



No. 3 as viewed by the driver for whom it is intended.

Number 4.—To bring on vehicles from his right or left, the constable looks towards the driver for whom the signal is intended, and beckons him on with the right (or left) hand and forearm, which should be raised well above the shoulder.



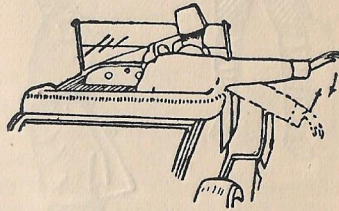
PART II

Signals to be given by Drivers.

(A) Signals to Drivers of other vehicles.

No. 1.—“I am going to SLOW DOWN, or STOP or TURN to my LEFT.”

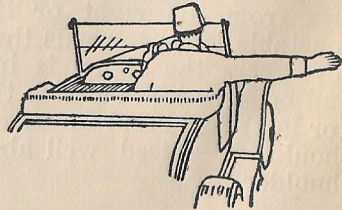
Extend the right arm with the palm of the hand turned downwards, and move the arm slowly up and down keeping the wrist loose.



No. 2.—“I am going to TURN to my RIGHT.”

(This signal may be used in any circumstances when it may be necessary to convey the warning “It is dangerous” to overtake me on my RIGHT”).

Extend the right arm and hand, with the palm turned to the front, and hold them rigid in a horizontal position straight out the off side of the vehicle.



No. 3.—“You may OVERTAKE me on my RIGHT.”

(This signal should only be given when it is safe for the overtaking vehicle to pass. The overtaking driver is not absolved thereby from the duty of satisfying himself that he can overtake with safety).

Extend the right arm and hand below the level of the shoulder, and move them backwards and forwards.



(B) Signals by Drivers to Police Constables.

When approaching a police constable engaged in the regulation of traffic, drivers of all vehicles should whenever possible indicate to him by means of one of the following signals the direction in which they wish to proceed. The signals are shown in the diagrams, as being given with the right hand, but signals Nos. 4 and 5 may be given with the left hand if more convenient.

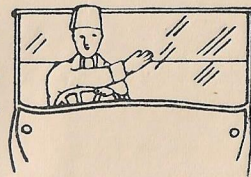
No. 4.—“I want to go STRAIGHT AHEAD.”

Raise the hand towards the shoulder and move the forearm well forwards and then back in a vertical plane making the movement sufficiently pronounced to be easily seen by the Constable



No. 5.—“I want to TURN to my LEFT.”

Point the hand to the left making the movement sufficiently pronounced to be easily seen by the Constable.



No. 6.—“I want to turn to my RIGHT.”

Use signal No. 2.

